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23 April 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Plans and Development
THROUGH : Acting Chief, Development Branch, P&DS
SUBJECT : Trip Report

1. On 8 April the undersigned, together with [redacted] of this office, visited [redacted] for the purpose of discussing with [redacted] a recent proposal submitted by that company for the completion of the Spatial Filtering device. The subject proposal, NPIC No. 179/63, for the amount of [redacted] offers to make certain mechanical alterations and improvements which in effect would make the instrumentation operational by a laboratory technician. In lieu of the [redacted] already invested in this contract over a considerable period of time, it seems appropriate to recommend this most recent proposal be accepted and when completed, the instrument delivered to the NPIC Developmental Laboratory for a continuation of this program in-house. While at [redacted] the undersigned interviewed [redacted] on the subject of microdensitometry as applied to mensuration techniques and asked his opinion regarding the various instrumentation available in the field. [redacted] suggested that [redacted] submit a proposal for a study program in this area. It is the opinion of the undersigned that unless [redacted] would guarantee the exclusive services of [redacted] for this study program they could make no substantial contribution.

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2. On 9 April the undersigned and [redacted] at [redacted] for the purpose of examining the several models of microdensitometers produced by that firm with specific interest in the Class I instrument currently under construction and approximately 80% completed. Discussions concerning the several densitometers were conducted with [redacted]. An opportunity presented itself to discuss the most recent developments in the field of aerial color films with [redacted] who were most anxious to cooperate in any way to carry on the current testing programs with color materials. [redacted] suggested that we pay a return visit with a group which would include appropriate persons from the operations side of the house to discuss in detail further modifications of the materials for the current testing program.

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3. On 10 April the undersigned and [redacted] to discuss with [redacted] their plans for the EK Model 6 Microdensitometer. The undersigned presented the NPIC requirements and design objectives. Unfortunately [redacted] who had done most of the work on the design of the Model 6, was at home recuperating from an emergency appendectomy. It was agreed

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that Eastman Kodak would submit a proposal for a Class I instrument incorporating design objectives peculiar to NPIC requirements. Later the same evening the undersigned stopped in at Photo Devices to review the progress on the precision enlarger. It was agreed that the optical flats would be delivered to the undersigned for plastic coating and returned to Photo Devices during the first week in May for incorporation in that equipment.

4. A meeting was held on 22 April with [redacted] and the undersigned to review the requirements and design objectives of TID in the two distinct areas of film evaluation and photo mensuration as applicable to microdensitometry. It was agreed at this meeting that the Joyce LoebI instrument would serve most, if not all, of the requirements for film evaluation techniques. The Joyce LoebI may be regarded as a Class III instrument. It was also agreed that the Eastman Kodak Model 3, a Class II instrument, would be used to continue studies in the field of photo mensuration and that the ultimate objective in this area would be the Ansco Class I instrument. [redacted] agreed to prepare a justification for the purchase of the Ansco Class I instrument. In conclusion, it may be stated that several manufacturers of microdensitometric equipment have been considered. These include: (1) Data Corp.; (2) Ansco; (3) Eastman Kodak; and (4) Joyce LoebI. Undoubtedly there are other manufacturers of this kind of equipment; however, it is felt that the above companies represent a good cross section in this field. As a result of this survey it is very obvious that the Ansco company is more realistic in their approach to the problem and that their personnel have gained considerably more experience in the general field of microdensitometry and have reflected this experience in the construction of a large number of instruments regarded by them as shelf items. It can safely be said that Ansco is the undisputable leader in both the manufacture of the equipment and techniques pertaining to its use. When the directives and justification are received from TID this office will prepare a Staff Study recommending the purchase of the Ansco Class I instrument.

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